

Post-it® Fax Note 7671		Date	# of pages ▶ 2	
To	RENATA HESSE		From	ROBERT HAUSS
Co./Dept.	DOL		Co.	
Phone #			Phone #	
Fax #	202 616 9937		Fax #	

Robert J. Haus
5501 Harwood Drive
Des Moines, IA 50312
(515) 277-3098 (home)
(515) 490-0538 (office)

January 28, 2002

Renata Hesse
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

I am writing to take advantage of the opportunity to weigh in on the Microsoft antitrust settlement decision by the U.S. District Court. Thank you for this opportunity.

Microsoft has been a leader in the technology industry with its software, operating system, and Internet browser. They are accused of being a monopoly, yet the companies fueling the case are identified as Microsoft's "competitors" – seems like a contradiction.


Linux operating system (OS) is growing at an astounding pace taking a larger share of the market every day. It's able to capture more of the market because consumers are choosing the Linux OS over Windows. The customer is deciding which product best suits their needs – not the government.

Bill Gates took Microsoft to unforeseen levels with unmatched speed. His vision and business savvy made the company "king of the hill"...for now. However, the high-tech industry grows at such rapid rates that no company will be "king of the hill" for long.

In the meantime, Microsoft's position in the market has not caused harm to the consumer. On a professional and personal level I appreciate the ease with which Windows works and my children would agree...it is simply the most user friendly software on the market today. Whether or not Microsoft is the best system for me is, and should remain, my own decision.

The settlement that the parties in this suit have come to is reasonable and delivers the government much of what it sought including a way to enforce the requirements set forth in the agreement. I respectfully request that you support the settlement in this case.

Thank You,



Robert Haus